

## LOCAL NEWS.

**CRIMINAL COURT.**—Yesterday, in the case of John B. Floyd, ex-Secretary of War, for conspiracy in attempting to defraud the Government, District Attorney Gould moved to enter a *nolle prosequi*. He stated that he believed that the conspiracy existed with Godard Bailey alone, and also, that as Floyd had been summoned and requested to testify before a Congressional committee in relation to the matter, he could not be prosecuted by the court, according to the ruling of the Judge in the case of Russell. He did not propose to enter a *nolle prosequi* in the indictment charging Floyd with malfeasance.

Mr. Carlisle thought it was proper to state that his client (Mr. Floyd) had come to the city ready to answer the charges brought against him; but hearing of the decision with regard to Russell, he (Carlisle) had, upon his own responsibility, and without consultation with any one, thought proper to bring the matter before his Honor. He hoped the motion of the District Attorney would be allowed.

The court stated that it would merely take time to examine the indictment, and some other technicalities of the case, and give its decision very shortly.

Noble Grayson (colored) was placed on trial on a charge of setting fire to the livery stable of James H. Shreve on the 7th of February last, whereby the said stable was totally destroyed. Mr. Norris appeared as an assistant for the prosecution, and Mr. Phillips for the defense.

Mr. J. H. Shreve being sworn, testified that his stable was burned about 8 o'clock on the night in question, together with hay, straw, provender, etc. Witness was in Dorsey's tavern, and heard the alarm, and ran out, and the flames were then bursting through the middle skylight of the loft. This loft was easily accessible by means of a stairway. Witness does not know who was at the stable at the time. Witness knows defendant, and he passes for a free negro. Witness has known him since he was a small boy.

Cross-examined: The stairway leading to the loft is about 20 feet from the front, and in order to get to it from the front, one has to pass by the office door. If the door was closed, one might pass by and not be seen, though there are other ways of access to the stable than the front one, and a person could easily go up the stairs without passing by the office door. Witness partly raised Grayson, but he has not been about the stable for several years; witness has never employed him for years; witness has never had a quarrel with him. He ran away from witness about ten years ago, and witness then threatened to whip him if he caught him; but witness never caught him, and never thought anything about it afterwards. Witness has an old servant who slept in the loft over the carriage-house, but was at his supper at the time of the fire. Witness saw him about ten minutes before the fire broke out. It was a bitter cold night, and witness told the old man he had better stay at the house by the stove. Witness was at home then, and nearly an hour after witness went over to Dorsey's. The old man was never permitted to take a light up to the loft when he went to bed. Witness knows the old man drinks, because he has often given him liquor; but never saw him drunk. There is a wide gate leading to the lot adjoining the stable, and from the lot a side entrance to the stable or carriage-house, from whence any one could get into the loft without being seen.

James H. Shreve, jun., testified that he went into the office of the stable about a quarter to eight o'clock on the night referred to; there were three others in the office, one of whom was Faunce Grayson, brother of the accused; had been there about ten minutes when he saw Noble Grayson peep in and tell Faunce that Mr. Moore's employer wanted him; Faunce replied, "D—n Mr. Moore, I won't go," and the accused closed the door and went off. In about five minutes, Noble returned again and repeated what he had said, and his brother got up and went out with him. About three minutes afterwards, Faunce returned and said the stable was on fire; witness and his friends immediately sprang up to save what they could; witness went up stairs, and saw that it was set on fire about the middle of the loft; there was a side door which opened from the office into the stable; it was about five or six feet from the foot of the flight of steps; the glass in this door had been broken, and the door had been nailed up, so that it was impossible to see any one; this door was closed at the time, though the main doors had been gone into the stable and come out again without being seen; when witness got up stairs, the fire had made but little progress; the old colored man was not there that night; Juber slept in the apartment over the carriage-house, and was the last that went up at night; there was a wall between the two apartments, though it was necessary to pass through one end of the room where the fire was first discovered to get to his room. There were two other ways of going up stairs, without going through the front door.

Cross-examined: The accused had not been about the stable much of late; had not been employed there for several years. Witness had never testified that Faunce had come back to the stable again before he had said it was on fire. Had seen Jones go up stairs, on one occasion, with a tin lantern, so constructed that the sparks would not fly out; witness then followed him up, and gave him a scolding for it; Jones seemed to be very sorry for it, and promised not to repeat the offense; witness was satisfied he never went up there again with a light. Never knew Jones to keep a whisky bottle up stairs, though he was of the opinion that he did sometimes go up there to drink.

Washington Cissel (one of the firm of Moore & Cissel) testified that he was at the door of his store shortly before eight o'clock on that evening, and saw the accused and his brother standing on the pavement together, engaged in conversation; Noble was swearing about old Juber, the colored man; did not stop to observe them. Was behind the counter when the alarm of fire was given; noticed Noble come into the store a few minutes before, and go right out again; did not see him return again; could not tell exactly how much time elapsed before the alarm was given. Witness gave Noble no order to take a light; did not hear Mr. Moore give him any; thinks he should have heard him if he did.

James Bowen and Charles Shreve were called to the stand, but their evidence merely corroborated that already given.

James Dore sworn: Witness is employed as a hostler at the stable. His evidence was mainly corroborative of that already given. On his cross-examination, he testified to having known old Juber to keep a bottle of whisky in his room, up stairs; had seen him go up stairs to his own room with a candle; the old man had never lit the candle in the presence of Mr. Shreve; he was a very decrepit old man, probably about seventy years of age, and was always very stupid after drinking; drank every day, and very frequently, especially towards evening; did not see him there before the fire that night; saw him about that afternoon; he did not appear to be at all intoxicated then; he generally lit his candle in the office, though he never did so when Mr. Shreve was present; did

not light any candle there on the night of the fire; Juber kept the candle and a box of matches up stairs in his own room.

Wm. D. Bell sworn: All that witness knew concerning the matter was what Noble had told him at the jail, on the Sunday morning after the arrest.

The statement was objected to by the counsel for the defense, and the objection sustained by the court.

Charlotte Simms, (colored,) sworn: The counsel for the defense objected to this witness testifying, she being a negro, and asserting, that the grandmother of the accused was a white woman. The objection was argued at considerable length by the various counsel, and the court decided that the point was well taken, but stated that the fact alleged would have to be proven. Several witnesses were then called, to testify in relation to the status of the grandmother; but, without arriving at a decision, the court adjourned.

**WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY.**—At a meeting of the officers of the battalion last evening, Dr. Samuel W. Bogan was elected Assistant Surgeon. During the evening, two fine colored engravings of the surrenders of Burgoyne and Cornwallis (copies of the paintings in the Capitol, by Trumbull) were received from Mr. W. Rupp, who accompanied the gift with a patriotic letter. The thanks of the battalion were voted to the donor.

**ZOUAVE CORPS.**—The Zouave company held a meeting last night at their army, which was largely attended. After transacting business pertaining to their organization, they adjourned to drill. They are now drilling with arms, and make considerable progress. This company continues to increase in numbers, and bids fair to soon rival our older companies.

**NEARLY DEAD.**—On yesterday morning, Officers Rabbitt and Burkhardt found a colored man named Lewis Clark, at the scene of the fire on Ninth street, nearly frozen to death. They carried him to the Central Guardhouse, where the guards present had to work on him for some time before he showed any signs of recovering. About eight o'clock he had so far recovered as to be able to walk home.

**EASTER BALL.**—Companies A and B, Washington Light Infantry, propose to give another of their popular balls on Monday week (Easter) at their army in Coombs's Hall. This announcement will be hailed with delight by many, as the balls of the Infantry have always been of the most pleasant character.

**STABBING CASE.**—Yesterday afternoon, about two o'clock, two men, who gave their names as James Welsh, of Baltimore, and John Frower, of Illinois, met each other, near the Baptist church on Thirteenth street, and got into a difficulty; during which the elder one of the two (Frower) drew a knife, and inflicted a cut across the neck of Welsh. They then voluntarily went to the office of Justice Clark, and complained against each other, the old man Frower charging Welsh with attacking him on the street, and Welsh charging Frower with trying to steal a watch chain from him. The magistrate, thinking that Frower had used his knife in self-defense, and the parties appearing to be without visible means of support, committed them both to the workhouse for sixty days.

**DISORDERLY GATHERING.**—Yesterday afternoon, Officers Lloyd, Bright, Beitzell, and Irving, went to a house on E street, between Second and Third, and arrested a crowd of colored men and women. The house had been for some time the subject of frequent complaint as a rendezvous for low and disorderly persons. They were brought before Justice Doun, and gave their names as follows: Ann Brown, Sarah Brown, Catherine Campbell, Noah Shields, and James Bowser.

Shields paid his fine and was dismissed; the rest were committed to the workhouse for sixty days each.

**CENTRAL GUARDHOUSE.**—Before Justice Clark—Charles Carpenter, a sailor from the United States ship Pawnee, got on a spree and became very disorderly in a bar room on the avenue. He refused to pay a fine for his conduct, and was committed to the workhouse for sixty days.

Anthony Semmes, colored, was charged with stealing a \$2.50 piece from William Tyler, and committed to jail for court.

John Boyson, a soldier, was charged with being disorderly, and fined \$3.94.

**Georgetown Correspondence.**—Georgetown, D. C., March 19, 1861.

Last night, a man from Baltimore, named Michael Purcell, came to his death by intoxication and exposure to the cold on the canal tow path. The verdict of the coroner's jury was found accordingly. His body was interred at the Almshouse.

The canal is now in good order, and boats are constantly arriving with coal and produce of all kinds. Our mills are taking in supplies of wheat from this source, and expect in a few days to be in full operation. Fish is now arriving at our market in considerable numbers, and preparations have been made to carry on an active campaign.

The steamer Alger, Captain Fenton, arrived at the wharf of Hyde & Davidson this morning, from Philadelphia, laden with merchandise for the District.

**ALEXANDRIA ITEMS.**—From the Gazette of yesterday morning we glean the following:

On Sunday night, about eleven o'clock, Mr. Matthias McClure, owner on the farm of F. H. Hooff, Esq., was thrown from his horse on the toll-gate on the Washington and Alexandria turnpike, as he was returning from Washington. He was picked up in an insensible condition, and kindly taken care of by the persons at the toll-gate until two gentlemen of this city, who had been visiting in the country, came by, and proffered the use of their buggy to convey him to the town. Dr. McGuire was immediately sent for, and rendered the necessary medical assistance, and on yesterday morning, the injured man was, we are glad to state, in fair way towards a speedy recovery.

The house of Mr. J. E. Whitmore, on Henry street, was entered on Sunday night, while the family were at church, and a drawer of the bureau, containing some seventy or eighty dollars, was relieved of its contents. A watch and ten or twelve dollars, which were in the pockets of a pair of pantaloons, hanging in the same room, were untouched.

The freight train on the Orange and Alexandria railroad yesterday morning came in, bringing among other freight 250 bales of cotton, which came from Memphis, via Lynchburg, to seek shipment here for the city of New York. The cotton will be shipped hence by the New York and Virginia Steamship Transportation Company's line.

The fish stands in the market were rented last Saturday. The prices were about the same as last year.

**Massachusetts Clear Mess Pork**  
For sale low by  
BROWN & KEATING,  
353 FERRY AVENUE, near Sixth street.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

### Military Affairs in the South.

**Mobile, March 18.**—Major Ben. M. Colclough is on route to Richmond, to purchase arms for Texas. He will stop at Montgomery to solicit recruits for the mounted regiments, for the protection of the frontiers.

### Evacuation of Forts in Texas.

**New Orleans, March 18.**—Advices from Texas state that the entire evacuation of the Federal troops from Texas will be completed by the 20th inst.

### Election of United States Senator.

**St. Louis, Mo., March 18.**—After several days balloting for a United States Senator, Mr. Green was withdrawn to-day, and Waldo H. Johnson nominated in his stead, who was elected on the second ballot, the vote being as follows: Whole number of votes cast, 145; necessary to a choice, 73; Johnson, 88; Doniphan, 36; English, 29.

### The Missouri State Convention.

**St. Louis, Mo., March 18.**—The following amendments to the fifth resolution to the majority report of the Committee on Federal Relations, which has been under discussion the past week, was voted down in the Convention by a vote of 61 to 30:

"And further believing that the fate of Missouri depends upon the peaceable adjustment of our present difficulties, she will never countenance or aid a seceding State in making war upon the General Government; nor will she provide men and money for the purpose of aiding the General Government in any attempt to coerce a seceding State."

### Virginia Convention.

**Richmond, March 19.**—The Committee on Federal Relations to-day reported the proposed amendments to the Constitution. These amendments are, in substance, Franklin's substitute changed. The term "involuntary servitude" is used for "persons held to service." The rights of owners in slaves are not to be impaired by Congressional or territorial law, or pre-existing law in Mexico, or in territory hereafter acquired. Involuntary servitude, except for crime, is prohibited north of 36° 30', but it shall not be prohibited by Congress or any territorial Legislature south of that line. In the third section are some verbal alterations for the somewhat better security of property in transit. The fifth section prohibits the importation of slaves from places beyond the limits of the United States. The sixth makes verbal changes relative to remuneration for fugitives by Congress, and exercises the clause securing the privileges of immunities. The seventh forbids the elective franchise and the right to hold office to persons of the African race. The eighth provides that none of these amendments, nor the third paragraph, second section, first article, of the Constitution, nor the third paragraph, second section, fourth article thereof, shall be amended or abolished without the consent of all the States.

The taxation question was debated, but no action taken.

Mr. Randolph concluded his speech in favor of secession.

### Later from Florida.

**New Orleans, March 19.**—The town of Newport, Florida, was partially destroyed on the 15th. The loss is estimated at \$100,000.

### From Havana.

**New Orleans, March 19.**—Havana dates of the 15th have been received. The new American tariff had created some excitement there.

### New York Markets.

**New York, March 19.**—Cotton firm—sales of 5,000 bales. Upland middlings, 12 @ 12 1/2 cents. Flour quiet—sales of 11,000 barrels; State, \$5.05 @ \$5.15; Ohio, \$5.50 @ \$5.60; Southern, \$5.35 @ \$5.70. Wheat firm—sales of 109,000 bushels; Kentucky white, \$1.65. Corn firm—sales of 37,000 bushels; mixed, 66 1/2. Lard dull and unsettled—sales of 1,000 barrels at 9 @ 10 cents. Whisky dull at 17 1/2 @ 17 3/4 cents. Sugar steady; muscovado, 41 @ 5 cents. Havana, 5 1/2 cents. Rosin steady at \$1.20 @ \$1.25.

### Financial.

**New York, March 19.**—Stocks dull and irregular—Chicago and Rock Island, 57 1/2; Illinois Central shares, 80 1/2; do. bonds, 100; Michigan Southern, 36 1/2; New York Central, 86 1/2; Pennsylvania Coal, 79 1/2; Reading, 43 1/2; Hudson River Railroad, 44 1/2; Virginia 6's, 78; Missouri 6's, 65 1/2.

### Items Telegraphed from Washington.

Detroit, Chicago, and Portland, have been constituted exchange offices for the French as well as British mails, to be conveyed via Portland and Liverpool, or River de Loup and Liverpool, to take effect on the 1st of April. West Coast postmasters will accordingly send letters to France to the post offices of the cities first above mentioned instead of New York.

W. H. Russell, President of the Central, Overland, California and Pike's Peak Express Company, and founder of the pony express, has concluded a contract with the Overland Mail Company, transferred by the last Congress to the central route, to run the mail and pony express from the Missouri river, connecting with the overland company at Salt Lake city.

The accounts with the census marshals in the "Confederate States" have not been settled, as the latter withheld the public money from which the Government desires to make the payment.

The State Department is about transmitting to the several States a ratification of the passage by Congress of the following proposed amendment to the Constitution, which shall become valid when ratified by three-fourths of the Legislatures, namely:

"No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State."

**WHERE IT IS EXPECTED A CONFLICT MAY OCCUR.**—The Charleston correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch, writing on Friday last, says, the telegraphic announcement of the departure of five war steamers from New York, probably for that port, was not credited, as far as related to their rumored destination. The impression here is, says the correspondent, that Major Anderson will be forthwith withdrawn, yet General Beauregard has redoubled all vigilance, and has required every man to stand to his post, and be ready at a moment's warning, and not to let any vessel pass without her character being fully investigated. General Beauregard has cut off all supplies for Sumter, both as to food and fuel, and they have now only twelve days' supply. That the command will be withdrawn now, all seem to admit as a matter of necessity, but no such an indication of peace. The conflict, no doubt, will begin at Fort Pickens, where there will be, by the middle of next week, fully 8,000 troops concentrated. Captain Ingraham leaves here to-morrow, to take command of the navy yard at Pensacola, and from that place you may expect the first onset, which is to delay this land in blood, and bring mourning to many of our

hearts and hearts. One thing may be relied on—that the Washington Government will not permit Pickens, except they do it over the lifeless bodies of many a brave man. It has been thought by many, both North and South, that any attempt to reinforce or coerce would bring to our aid Virginia and the other border States; but I hear no such expectation spoken of here. Indeed, on the contrary, no intelligent man has the slightest expectation of any other State coming into the Confederacy, except perhaps Arkansas.

### SEVENTH WARD REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Association will be held at Island Hall, corner of Virginia avenue and Sixth street, this (Wednesday) evening, at 7 1/2 o'clock. mar 20—18 W. J. MURTAGH, Sec.

### By BARNARD & BUCKEY, Auctioneers.

**Georgetown, D. C.**  
**EXCELLENT** Furniture, at Auction. — On Wednesday morning, 20th instant, at 10 o'clock, we will sell, at the residence of Jesse Lipscomb, Esq., on High street, east side, near Second street, the entire Household Furniture and Effects, as—Mahogany Tables, Sofas, Rockers, and Chairs; Good Carpets, Rugs, and Oilcloth; Side and Work Tables, Looking Glasses; Bureaus, Bedsteads, Wardrobes; Excellent Feather Beds and Mattresses; Dining Room and Kitchen Furniture, Stoves, &c. Terms at sale. BARNARD & BUCKEY, mar 19—21 Auctioneers.

### McRAE & TAFF,

Successors to Matlock & Harbert,

### MERCHANT TAILORS,

No. 399 Seventh st., bet. H and I sts.,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Keep constantly on hand Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings. mar 18—6m

### MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

**Piano, Voice, and Violin.**  
PROF. W. A. LOVELAND, continuing his vocation as Music Teacher in the city of Washington, would announce to strangers coming here to reside that he offers his pupils the superior advantages of a thorough and greatly improved system of instruction, including the departments of Harmony and Composition.

Having had nearly thirty years' experience in teaching, he is able to adapt the lessons pleasingly and profitably to the comprehension of the scholar, so that much of the tediousness common in musical discipline is obviated, and study and practice rendered highly attractive.

Prof. L. has taught in this city several years, and is pleased to refer to numerous patrons for the most favorable testimonials.

Terms moderate.

Prof. L. will keep in tune the pianos of his pupils without extra charge. Orders may be left at his residence, No. 423 Seventh street, near G; at Mr. Adams's book store, Seventh street, opposite the Post Office; or at Mr. J. F. Ellis's music store, Pennsylvania avenue, near Tenth street. mar 15\*

### JUST RECEIVED, at Smith's, No. 460 Seventh

street, a large lot of Spring Clothing, Hats, and Caps. All for sale, at very low prices. All persons in want of goods in our line will find it greatly to their advantage to call for purchasing elsewhere, as our prices are lower than at any other house in town. feb 28—6m

### FOR SALE OR RENT.

A FOUR-Story Brown Front Brick House, on Thirteenth street, between L street and Massachusetts avenue. The house is furnished with Gas, Water, etc. Possession given on the 1st of April. The gentleman about to decline housekeeping would have no objection to selling the Parlor, Chamber, and Hall Carpets, (all recently purchased,) together with many other desirable articles of Furniture, at very reasonable prices, if early application be made.

Apply on the premises, between three and four o'clock, or at J. M. DOWNING'S, No. 547 L street, between Seventh and Eighth streets. mar 13—2w

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The fact that all of the Insurance Companies of the District are declaring large dividends to their stockholders, at once shows the great profit on their premiums, and the consequent saving to persons insuring with this Company.

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CHARLES WILSON, Secretary.

MATTHEW G. EMERY, Treasurer.

### MANAGERS.

ULYSSES WARD, JOHN VAN RISWICK,

JOHN DICKSON, MATTHEW G. EMERY,

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We would also call the attention of persons about introducing gas into their dwellings to our increased facilities, and consequent low prices, for this branch of our trade.

Inviting all who desire their work done promptly, and free from gas leakage, to call at 609 Pennsylvania avenue, between Tenth and Eleventh streets, south side.

nov 26 J. W. THOMPSON & CO.

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THE two-story Brick Dwelling House, situated on and adjoining the corner of Fourth and D streets, east of the City Hall.

Apply to JOSEPH FUGITT,

mar 6—1f No. 90 Louisiana avenue.

### THE ROYAL TURKISH TOWELS.

Being Sponges, Velvet Sponges, Bath Towels, &c.

Brown Windsor Soap, Heavy Soaps.

Lubin's Soaps and Extracts.

Genius German Cologne, all sizes, wicks, and plain bottles.

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Pomades of all kinds.

Hair Tonics, &c.

With a full assortment of new Perfumery.

Hair Brushes, Combs, Tooth Brushes.

Fresh Medicines, Pure Chemicals, &c.

Just received at GILMAN'S,  
New Drug Store, 350 Penn. Av.  
Congress, Empire, Saratoga, Bedford, Blue  
Lick, and White Sulphur Waters, always on  
hand, as above. dec 3

### Union, Now and Forever!

L GASSNER is in town, and will be glad to have the public take notice that he will sell Clothing, Hats and Caps, and Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods, lower than ever, and those who call shall not go away dissatisfied.

No. 334 Seventh and K streets, Washington, D. C. mar 10—3m

### Prospectus of the National Republican.

Believing that the time has arrived when the great Republican party of the United States ought to be fairly represented in the daily press of the National Metropolis, we have embarked in the enterprise of supplying the citizens of the District of Columbia with a daily publication, under the title of the "NATIONAL REPUBLICAN."

In its political department, this journal will advocate and defend the principles of the Republican party, and endeavor to disabuse the public mind of groundless prejudices which have been engendered against it, by the false accusations of its enemies. Having the utmost confidence that the administration of Mr. Lincoln will be such as to merit our approbation, we expect to yield it a cordial, but not a servile support.

In the great issue that is likely to be made with his administration, by the enemies of the Republican party, the people of Washington and the District of Columbia have more at stake than the people of any other portion of our common country. We believe that to support Mr. Lincoln's administration will be synonymous with maintaining the integrity of the Federal Union, against the machinations of those who would rend it asunder. No one can doubt upon which side of this issue the people of Washington will be found, when they come to realize that it is fairly forced upon them.

We feel confident, therefore, that in yielding to the administration of Mr. Lincoln a cordial support, we shall have the sympathy of an immense majority of the people of this District and vicinity.

It is not our design, however, to make the *National Republican* a mere political paper. We intend, that as a medium of general and local news, it shall not be inferior to any other journal published in this city. We shall pay particular attention to questions of local policy, and advocate such reforms as we may deem essential to the prosperity of the city, and to the advancement of the moral and material welfare of its inhabitants.

We deem it unnecessary, however, to multiply promises, as the paper will immediately make its appearance, and will then speak for itself. It will be published every morning, and delivered to city subscribers at six cents per week. Mail subscribers, \$3.50 a year, payable in advance.

The publication office is at the corner of Indiana avenue and Second street.

LEWIS CLEPHANE & CO.

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